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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

National Intelligence Council

DDI #1688-82

1 March 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

FROM : H. F. Hutchinson, Jr.
National Intelligence Officer for Warning

SUBJECT : NIO Monthly Warning Assessments: February

1. The reports on the NIO warning meetings are attached.
2. Comments on warning situations.

a. Israel-Lebanon

The NIO warning report notes that an Israeli attack on Palestinian forces in southern Lebanon remains likely, and its probability accumulates over time. Another possibility, not addressed in the warning report, is that the Israeli government may intend to postpone its withdrawal from the Sinai concurrent with a strike against Palestinian forces in Lebanon. The Sinai withdrawal is scheduled for 25 April and the Multinational Force and Observers are scheduled to arrive on 20 March. In addition to official expressions of concern that Mubarek is moving away from the Camp David accords, the Israelis have been issuing [redacted] public warnings that they will tolerate no more PLO violations of the ceasefire and that they will act after the next one. The shrillness and increased tempo of public Israeli statements strongly implies that action is imminent.

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b. Central America

The NIO warning report has a particularly somber assessment by the NIO/LA of the next few weeks in El Salvador

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and Guatemala. The Community views are not so somber in tone but do not appear to differ significantly. The thrust of the assessments is that US and world opinion is the target of the upcoming guerrilla offensives.

c. West Germany-INF

The NIO warning report contains a discussion of the increasing stresses in the SPD and FDP coalition. It concludes with the judgment that the April SPD convention will include a showdown over the INF issue--a showdown that Schmidt had hoped to avoid. There are others who argue that the possibility can no longer be discounted that party opponents of the missile decision will prevail in a test on a missile deployment moratorium and creation of a nuclear-free zone in Europe.

H F Hutchinson
H. F. Hutchinson, Jr.

Attachments:

SC 08211-82 - NIO/NESA ✓
NIO/USSR-EE ✓
NIO/LA
NIO/EA ✓
NIO/WE ✓
NIO/AF ✓
SA/NPI

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